

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/532,350

Examiner

Lucy Thomas

Applicant(s)

DOMEJEAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/09/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5-7 and 9-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites an electrical ignition means connected so that when the mobile arc switching electrode is in the operating position, the electrical ignition means is connected in series between to the arc switching electrode and the second connecting pad, and that when the mobile arc switching electrode is in the switching position and an electric arc is drawn between the first connecting electrode and the second connecting electrode, the electrical ignition means is disconnected from the circuit, the electrical ignition means having an ohmic resistance varying inversely with the voltage applied to the electrical ignition means. This limitation, in combination with the other recited elements, is not disclosed by the prior art of record, and therefore allowable.

Claim 14 recites, along with the other elements, an electrical ignition means electrically connected in series between said mobile arc switching electrode and said second electrical pad, and having an ohmic resistance varying inversely with the voltage applied to the electrical ignition means,

and driving the mobile arc switching electrode when a relatively larger voltage surge occurs on the electrical line, such that said first and second contacts are separated and such electric arc bypasses said electrical ignition means, thereby protecting said electrical ignition means from such relatively larger voltage surge. This limitation, in combination with the other recited elements, is not disclosed by the prior art of record, and therefore allowable.

Claim 16 recites the allowable subject matter of Claim 14, except that "said second contact is separated from said fixed stud' instead of "said first and second contacts are separated," and therefore allowable for the same reason as for Claim 14.

Claim 17 recites, along with the other elements, an electrical ignition means electrically connected in series between said first electrode and said fixed stud, and having an ohmic resistance varying inversely with the voltage applied to the electrical ignition means,

and driving the mobile arc switching electrode when a relatively larger voltage surge occurs on the electrical line, such that said second contact is separated from said fixed stud such electric arc bypasses said electrical ignition means, thereby protecting said electrical ignition means from such relatively larger voltage surge. This limitation, in combination with the other recited elements, is not disclosed by the prior art of record, and therefore allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 4,168,514 (Howell), US 5, 321,574 (Patrick et al.).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lucy Thomas whose telephone number is 571-272-

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6002. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on 571-272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LT
November 16, 2007



MICHAEL SHERRY
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800